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Industries

Development of the wood distillation industry.

* 1507 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to my question No. 166 answered on 5th September 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what steps have been and are being taken for the development of the wood distillation industry ?

A.—It is understood that the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, proposes to undertake a review of the whole field of the charcoal industry in India with a view to deciding on the most suitable type of kiln for this country, and is collecting data in localities where charcoal is now being chiefly burnt. The Institute proposes to take up the investigation into the question of destructive distillation of wood later as the erection of plant in connection with it would be an expensive matter. It is proposed however to carry out preliminary enquiries into the uses for the large quantities of charcoal that would be produced, and to ascertain likely markets for the by-products produced. If as a result of these preliminary investigations it is found that there is a future for the industry a comprehensive project is proposed to be prepared by the Institute together with the lines on which the question will be further studied. This Government propose to await the results of these investigations before taking any steps in the matter.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire, Sir, how Government have come to know that the Forest Institute, Dehra Dun, is going to undertake all this work? Is there any correspondence ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" The Director of Industries has reported on the matter."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Will the hon. Minister be pleased to give more definite information regarding the scheme ? "

The hon. Mr. M. K. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" It is a very long report and I shall show the report to the hon. Member if he wants."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Does the Government propose to give any aid to the industry ? "

The hon. Mr. M R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" As soon as the survey of cottage industries is made the question will be considered."

Development of the wood distillation industry.

* 1508 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the possibility of wood distillation industry is being investigated by the Forest Department;

(b) whether any expert has been employed for the purpose ; and

(c) whether the Government contemplate sending any one to learn the industry at Bhadravati, Mysore ?

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A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1507 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha.

(b) & (c) The Government propose to await the results of the investigations by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, before taking any steps in the matter.

Development of the silk industry in Nugur taluk.

*1509 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government are giving any and, if so, what aid to the development of the silk industry in Nugur taluk?

A.—The Government are not giving any aid at present.

Veterinary

Muslim representation in the cadre of veterinary assistant surgeons.

*1510 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of veterinary assistant surgeons both in the ordinary and in the selection grades and how many of them are Muslims in each grade;

(b) whether there are any Muslim circle officers in the Civil Veterinary Department and if so, how many, out of what total number;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the negative, what steps he proposes to take to have this community represented in the cadre; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to appoint more circle officers and if so, when the appointments will be made and how many?

A.—(a) There are 218 veterinary assistant surgeons in the ordinary grade and 24 in the selection grade. There are 10 Muslims in the ordinary grade and none in the selection grade.

(b) There are no Muslim circle officers in the Civil Veterinary Department.

(c) The Government do not propose to take any special steps as the adequate representation of all communities compatible with efficiency will be taken into consideration when appointments of circle officers are made.

(d) It is proposed to appoint five additional circle officers during the next official year.

Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed:—"May I know whether the Government propose to remove the disproportion of Muslims among the veterinary assistant surgeons?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"As far as practicable, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know whether the Government are likely to appoint additional circle officers?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"The matter will be communicated to the department?"

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Will the Government make a distinction in the selection of assistant surgeons in favour of Muslims?"